

The New Era.

We have arrived at a New Era. The main object of the Union under the present Constitution, was to secure the harmony of the States. That has at length failed. About one-half of the States, have engaged in a course of policy destructive to the rights, the interests, and honor of the other half, and have already succeeded in securing a majority vote in Congress for their spoliation. It was the intention and belief of the framers of the Constitution, that the power of the States should be equal to their own protection, and that danger was to be apprehended from their encroachments on the Federal Government, rather than from Federal encroachments on them. This has been completely falsified by experience. It was distinctly held by Mr. Madison in the Federalist, that State patronage and honor would preponderate over Federal, and that men would be elected to Federal office, on questions of State policy rather than Federal; and that the danger of the new Government would be from conflicts and anarchy among the States, rather than consolidation. Instead of that, men are elected generally, even to the most trivial offices of a State, according to their Federal policies, and that is consolidation.

Thus the progress of consolidation has been so great, as to lengthen to a condition of half the States having a majority of the population, to oppress the other half—and through the influence of parties in Federal politics, to obtain in such an attempt, the support of a portion of the Representatives, and people of the victim States.

What then is to be done? When our fathers found the Articles of Confederation inadequate for their welfare, they proceeded to amend, and they ended by changing them. Let us do so likewise. The Nashville Convention meets again in about seven weeks. Let delegates be sent from every State and district where the people are not lost to a sense of their rights, or to a spirit for asserting them. Let that Convention, if it assembles, deliberate on the evils we have suffered, the dangers that are impending, and the mode and measure of redress and safety. Let them not listen to the language of submission—let them not think for a moment of abandoning the South to a future of shame, of injury, of ruin. Nothing has been done, which a people worthy of being free cannot undo—Let South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Mississippi, take their stand, and the rights of the South and the integrity of the Union can be preserved. Let Virginia, N. Carolina, Louisiana, Arkansas, Texas, Missouri, Tennessee, Kentucky and Maryland send delegates. But let no man expect unanimity. Never yet was a great movement made for the assertion of right or the resistance of wrong, with any thing like unanimity. The inequalities of human character forbid it. The glory and even the existence of every people always depend on the sagacity, patriotism and energy of a part, and there are now in the South as large a part of her people endowed with the high qualities of their race, as ever led a country in defence of her rights.

Nor let any man suppose there is danger of civil war from an honest, enlightened and manly assertion of Southern rights. The North is more dependent on the Union than the South, and will always derive more benefit from it, even when its powers are honestly exercised. Manufactures and Commerce may flourish in the South, but neither the genial sun of the latter, nor its fertile soil, can ever shine or fructify in the North. The North-west can abound in grain, but the South can produce more than an abundance of her own bread, and the cotton that clothes the world can never grow in the valley of the Ohio.

The North will prefer a union and equality of the States, to Disunion. The South, we trust, will never acquiesce in the attempt made by Congress to divest her of all share of the territories recently acquired. California can yet be divided—and if millions can be paid to Texas for territorial claims for the sake of Northern encroachment, let millions be paid to California for Southern right.

The South will demand security for the future also. And this will require a modification of our Federal system.

We have had much discussion, for the last few years, on natural and political rights. We shall have more. These questions will be examined thoroughly. The operation of our system will be subjected to a thorough scrutiny, and our paper will abound with disquisitions from the ablest pens in the land. We expect to lay before our readers a body of fact and argument concerning the nature and results of our institutions, never equalled since the debates on the Federal Constitution.

The States of Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, and Texas, are all to hold Conventions soon, to discuss the fundamental principles of human society, political rights and Constitutional powers. It was, perhaps, time for the public mind to awaken and rise above the low pursuits of party and of self. And a shock has been given by Congress, which all but the dead must feel. Let, therefore, the patriots and wise men of the land come forth. Let the spirit of our ancestors be invoked—let the institutions they transmitted be preserved and improved.

The South has an ample amount of ability, of power, of resources, to secure the re-establishment of her rights and her safety, in future. If she fails, she will exchange a character that has hitherto extorted the respect of her enemies, for one that will merit the pity and contempt of her friends.

Authentic information has been received from Milledgeville, that Gov. Towns will call a Convention of the people of the State of Georgia, as required by the act of her last Legislature. We were already satisfied that he would do so, the quibble about disjunctive or copulative conjunctions to the contrary notwithstanding. Georgia has assumed the lead—the South is awaiting her summons.

The Richmond Times thinks that Southern property would suffer much more than Northern in case of difficulty between the two sections. We don't. We believe quite the reverse.

We call attention to the advertisement on our first page of the Nightingale Servant—They remain but two nights longer.

The Coalition Complete.

The Syracuse Convention has tended to reconcile the rival factions of the Barnburners and the Hunkers, as the two wings of the New York Democracy have commonly been called. John Van Buren figured very conspicuously. Major Noah, one of the old Hunkers and a most sagacious and far sighted politician, thus sums up the Syracuse proceedings, as restoring the reins once more to the Van Buren faction:

"THE SYRACUSE CONVENTION.—Mr. John Van Buren and the free-soilers carried the day, and were admitted into the Democratic Convention at Syracuse. The Hunkers have been compelled to submit. This is the result of union with corrupt recalcitrants for the purpose of acquiring a political ascendancy lost by the apostasy of those very men. Mr. John Van Buren, smuggled in as a member from the fifthteenth district of the city, walks proudly into that convention as a leader. He says, in effect, to that body—'Here I am with my free-soil abolition party. We have no regrets for the past nor promises for the future. We broke down the nomination of the Baltimore Convention and placed the whole power of the Government in the hands of the Whigs. We do so to prove that we had the ability to defeat the nominations, of which we did not approve, and we make no pretensions to political fidelity hereafter. The settlement of the territorial questions by Congress leaves us no room for the present to agitate or carry out free-soil doctrines, but we still adhere to them. You cannot get on without us, and we do not intend to unite with you unless our party is recognized in a proper distribution of the nominations for office.' And this is the party and this is the leader that the honest hunker democrats have agreed to unite with. In principle it is abominable; in policy it is ruinous. It destroys all hope of the party ever again nominating Cass and Butler—names that were the confidence of the Democracy—and the nominations of 1852 will have to be placed under the supervision and obtain the consent of the Van Buren dynasty. We can only say that such a corrupt union offers a premium hereafter for apostasy. The power to pull down is more potent than that of building up; and hereafter any squad, any faction or division of the democratic party may infuse the flag of opposition to the nominations, and say to that old and honest party—'You cannot succeed without us. What will you give for our support?'

The consummation of this unnatural union is as bad as its commencement. John Van Buren, who had no right to a seat in that convention, was admitted. A proposition to place Henry Clay at the head of the executive committee, opposed by Mr. John Van Buren, was withdrawn, and Campbell, the leader of the old-guard of Van Buren, and a principal agent in defeating Cass and Butler, was appointed on that committee. The nominations are a streak of fat and a streak of lean—here a hunker and there a free-soiler. The resolutions are milk and water, containing no element of the upright, honorable and patriotic course of senator Dickinson. His friends let him drop like a lump of sugar in a tea-cup. The reins are again in the hands of Van Buren, but we are much mistaken if such unprincipled means can be or ought to be successful."

The Georgia Convention.

We append an editorial from the *Federal Union*, published at the seat of Government in Georgia, which shows the circumstances under which the act authorizing the call of a State Convention was adopted, and the position of both parties therein at that time. As to the quibble that has been made and the dispute that has arisen, as to the use of a disjunctive or copulative conjunction in the original act, the State of Georgia never would attempt to creep through such a knot-hole as that, well knowing and having tacitly acquiesced in the construction put upon that act at the time of and subsequent to its passage.

Whatever the men of Georgia will be done openly and boldly without reserve, equivocation or concealment of any kind—her sons are as frank as they are fearless, and when they meet in council, we look for action worthy of the present and future position which Georgia must occupy among the Southern States.

"THE STATE CONVENTION.—We lay before our readers to-day, the act of the last Legislature of Georgia, directing the Governor to call a Convention, upon the passage by Congress of certain measures designated in the act. We also lay before them, the votes by which that act was passed by the Georgia Legislature, and the action of the Senate and twelve in the House, which we seen the almost unexampled unanimity which pervaded both branches of the General Assembly.

During the debate on the amendment, the Missouri line, introduced by him, with more than an equal vote, but only dissenting in the adoption. Mr. Bailey asked him, 'will you resist any encroachments upon it?' The answer was 'will.' 'Will you make it your fighting line?' The answer again was 'will.'

In the House, Mr. Jenkins, the leader of the Whig party in that branch of the Assembly and of those who then and there planted themselves on the Missouri line, and who, in the face of the decision, insisted that that should constitute the line beyond which the South should not and would not recede. By common consent, the majority and those who sustained them, for the sake of union, have yielded their own views and assumed the position indicated by Messrs. Miller and Jenkins, and which, we think, is now an adoption.

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The reports of those hundred guns, and the 'noise and confusion' of the 'Patriotic Rejoicings' here, must certainly have deflected our neighbors of the *National Intelligencer*, for in yesterday's paper they proclaim 'universal satisfaction' at the passage of the Adjustment, and profess hardly to have heard 'a whisper of dissent' to it 'as a whole,' with a very slight reservation.

This ascription strikes us as so very remarkable—our own mails from the South breathing anything rather than 'exultation,' though our Northern exchanges, many of them, do—that we give the *Intelligencer's* own words:

"Our anticipations of the universal satisfaction with which the late peace-making acts of Congress would be received by the people of the United States generally, have been fully realized. Hardly a whisper of dissent to them, as a whole, whatever exceptions may be taken to any one of the bills, or to particular features of the entire series, is heard from any quarter but from the camp of the Disunionists, from defeated political Abolitionists who do not of course include conscientious Free-soilers in this category—or from habitual malcontents, and grim grumblers at other people's happiness.

We could fill a double sheet of eight and forty of our broad columns with extracts full of joy and gratulation from the Southern and Western papers alone, on this subject. Satisfied

with the result, however, we have better occupation for our columns, at this moment, than to fill them with exultations of our own or of any body else's, on this occasion."

The Raleigh Register, a print which always "says ditto" to the *Intelligencer*, chimes in on this occasion, so far "having heard but one dissentient voice"—alluding to this press.

In view of the strong and bitter denunciation of this whole scheme of Adjustment, which forms the burden of many of the most influential Southern papers, now as heretofore; and the guarded language with which those favorable to it have generally announced its passage—not commending it as unexceptionable in itself, but as "the best we can get"—such statements prove the truth of the old adage, that there is no deanness so obstinate as that of people who won't hear. Such cases are beyond the skill of "Dr. Searpa's Acoustic Oil."

The Petersburg News.

This paper, which has strenuously opposed the measures which have recently been adopted, pending their passage, contained an editorial very recently, congratulating the country on their consummation.

There was some crowing over this change in certain quarters, and it struck us as rather curious at the time, but it is satisfactorily accounted for in the last number of that paper, by the statement of the absence of the editor for the last two weeks, during which time the paper "has been under the control of the foreman, aided by occasional suggestions from a friend who promised to contribute now and then some few of his own thoughts, by way of editorial."

Well may the regular editor of the *News*, on his return, repeat with fervency the trite aspiration of "Save me from my friends!"

The Cholera has again broken out at Harper's Ferry, and from Saturday to Monday 20 cases and 8 deaths were reported. In Pittsburgh, on Monday, 4 deaths from cholera occurred. Among the deaths there on Friday was Thomas L. Knapp, engaged in the iron business—a gentleman much esteemed and of high scientific attainments. At Lagrange, Ky., the epidemic broke out afresh last week, and a number of the most esteemed citizens had fallen victims to it.

Faith of the Compromisers.

We omitted to notice the other day the course of the Senate on receiving the memorial of New Mexico for admission as a State. There was a vote of 19 to 19 in favor of its regular reference to a committee—the compromisers generally voting for the reference. But when Mr. Yulex called attention to that fact, as evidence of the faith of those who had just before voted for a territorial government for that region, as part of a compromise to heal the bleeding wounds of a distracted country, there was a flutter, and the bill was laid on the table. But the country has lost faith in the Senate or in Congress—look to the States.

We are pleased to perceive that Arkansas is beginning to fill up her delegation to the second meeting of the Nashville Convention, as are also several others of her Southern sisters.

The Memphis Appeal mentioning the fact, calls on all sections to do likewise.

To the Editors of the Southern Press:

HILLSDALE, ARKANSAS, August 25th, 1850. GENTLEMEN: The confusion which has characterized Southern sentiment upon the subject of our international relationship, is fast giving way to a more settled and consistent opinion.

If I am not egregiously deceived in the opinion of Southern sentiment, the Southern masses are ripe for a defence of their constitutional rights and equality. They are ready to stand up for the rights of the South, and to resist any encroachments upon them. The South will never enter into any more compromises with the North upon the subject of slavery, for past experience proves that they are impotent for good, and are menacingly suicidal to the South. The question is already decided with the Southern people, that if their position in this confederacy depends upon a relinquishment of their constitutional rights and equality, that they are ready to "secede" if necessary.

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that the issue of freedom are born free; that the issue of slaves are born slaves; that God is the author of slavery, and that the principle of slavery is a state of slavery among us are in a better condition morally, mentally and physically, than any other portion of the race.

There is no probability that the Northern majority will suffer the South to remain in this confederacy, unless she will consent to a degraded political inequality, and thereby forego a participation in common rights and common benefits. The South may stand justified before the grand tribunal of the whole enlightened world, in order that she should state the causes which are likely to thrust her out of this confederacy, and drive her to seek independence and security elsewhere, and which she cannot do so long as she holds them in her present relationship.

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CONGRESSIONAL.

IN SENATE.

MONDAY, Sept. 16, 1850.

MORNING BUSINESS.

There was a large amount of morning business to-day, consisting of petitions, adverse reports, reports of bills, and resolutions, &c., the most important of which are as follows:

By Mr. BRIGHT: A joint resolution relating to the printing of Congress.

By Mr. FREMONT: A bill providing for the ascertainment of the land claims of the State of California.

By Mr. GWIN: A bill to refund to California certain revenues heretofore collected in her ports.

By Mr. PRATT: A bill to prevent the enticing of slaves from the free States into the Territory of Columbia.

The bill to authorize the appointment of a corps of Indian agents for the State of California, was read a third time and passed.

The civil and diplomatic bill was made the special order for Wednesday next.

PASSAGE OF THE SLAVE-TRADE BILL.

The bill to suppress the slave-trade in the District of Columbia was taken up; the question being upon the passage of the bill.

THE DIVISION OF THE GLOBE.

Mr. BENTON rose to submit a remark. He had contended from the beginning for the separation of the measures of the omnibus, and that each question should be permitted to stand upon its own merits. He had disagreed wholly with the arguments on the other side, of the necessity of the continuation of such incongruous elements. By this course he had been subjected to a great deal of censure, especially in his own State. The thing was now over, and he was right in everything.

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SOLDIER'S BOUNTY LAWS.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the House bill granting bounty lands to the officers and soldiers of the Indian war of 1790, and the subsequent wars, and of the war of 1812, and also to the officers of the Mexican war; not having been provided for the immediate amendment being by Mr. MASO, making some further grants to the soldiers entitled to indemnity under the law relating to the distribution of the Virginia military land warrants.

Mr. MANGUM moved that the bill be laid on the table, and that the Senate go into Executive session.

Mr. SHIELDS appealed earnestly for action upon the bill, and hoped the Senate would agree to pass it or reject it without further postponement.

The motion of Mr. MANGUM was laid—20 to 36.

The amendment of Mr. MASO, and amendment by Mr. YULEX, to add the Navy list to the bill, were debated for several hours by Messrs. SHELTON, HUSTON, WALKER, CASE, SEWARD, EWING, WALKER, YULEX, BRIGHT, JEFFERSON DAVIS, BADGER, HALE.

In this debate, Mr. YULEX, Mr. BADGER, and Mr. SHELTON, who were in the minority, moved that it be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

The bill provides for an assistant Secretary at a salary of \$3,000—four new clerks at \$1,000 each and one clerk at \$1,400.

Mr. RICHARDSON, of Illinois, moved to lay the bill on the table, but withdrew it at the request of Mr. BAYLY.

Here a long and somewhat exciting debate ensued between Messrs. BAYLY and RICHARDSON, who slightly participated in also by Messrs. JONES of Tennessee and McCLERNAND.

Mr. BAYLY contended that the increase of the Secretary of State and of other purposes, and that it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

The bill provides for an assistant Secretary at a salary of \$3,000—four new clerks at \$1,000 each and one clerk at \$1,400.

Mr. RICHARDSON said that when Mr. Buchanan wrote the letter recommending such an increase of the force of the State Department, the Department was not established, and therefore, even if there was a necessity then for the increase, there was not now.